

Delaware Department of Justice Commemorates World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on June 15th

Local efforts include programs throughout the state

Delaware will join in the commemoration of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on Friday June 15, 2018 as the Department of Justice hosts a series of events in each county.

Focused around the theme “S.A.V.E. – Stop Abuse of the Vulnerable and Elderly,” the events are designed to bring greater recognition of ways in which older adults are exploited, and to highlight various state and other resources available to older adults, victims and their families.

Today, more than ever, telemarketers, fraudsters, and even their own family members target older adults. The National Council on Aging has referred to scamming older adults as “the crime of the 21st century.” While many perceive it to be a crime committed by scammers and strangers, 90% of reported elder abuse is committed by a person’s own family members, according to the National Council on Aging.

The events, sponsored by the Delaware Department of Justice’s Senior Protection Initiative, will all take place on Friday, June 15, 2018 at these locations and times:

Brandywine Senior Center
3301 Green St. in the Claymont Bldg.
Claymont, DE 19703
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Siegel JCC

101 Garden of Eden Road
Wilmington, DE 19810
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Carvel State Office Building
820 N. French St.
Wilmington, DE 19801
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Newark Senior Center
200 Whitechapel Dr.
Newark, DE 19713
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

MOT Senior Center
300 S Scott St.
Middletown, DE 19709
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Mamie Warren Senior Center
1775 Wheatleys Pond Rd.
Smyrna, DE 19977
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Modern Maturity Center
1121 Forrest Ave.
Dover, DE 19904
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Milford Senior Center
111 Park Ave.
Milford, DE 19963
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Lewes Senior Center
32083 Janice Rd.
Lewes, DE 19958
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Long Neck CHEER Center
26089 Long Neck Rd.
Millsboro, DE 19966
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Ocean View CHEER Center
30637 Cedar Neck Rd.
Ocean View, DE 19970
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Visit one of these locations on June 15, 2018 to get your “STOP Elder Abuse” ribbon, pick up valuable resources, and learn about services available to older Delawareans.

The Senior Protection Initiative is a Delaware Department of Justice outreach effort committed to the prevention of elder abuse, financial exploitation, and financial scams. For every known case of abuse, about 23 remain hidden. Older adults often do not report being victimized out of fear, a desire to protect the abuser, social isolation, embarrassment, and/or an inability to report.

Elder abuse can be financial, emotional, physical and sexual. It also includes people who are neglected and those who neglect themselves. The consequences of elder abuse are grave: older adults who are abused are twice as likely to be hospitalized, four times as likely to go into nursing homes, and three times as likely to prematurely die according to the National Center on Elder Abuse.

Established by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and the World Health Organization at the United Nations in 2006, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day serves as a call-to-action for individuals, organizations, and communities to raise awareness about abuse, neglect, and exploitation of elders.